Undergraduate Learning Center - Concrete formwork for a new classroom in the Undergraduate Learning Center is being installed. The new building surrounds the existing shell of Hardman Hall which contains an Auditorium classroom below, and two classrooms above. The Hardman and Jacobs ULC will have a total of (6) classrooms, the Student Success Center, Upward Bound, and a portion of ICT which includes a Drop-in Lab, a computer training lab, offices, and a computer repair shop.

Repairing the Cool Pool - Plant Operations has scheduled the draining of the thermal storage pool (Cool Pool) at the Central Utility Plant. The cool pool allows chilled water to be made at night when electric power is less expensive and stored for use during the day when rates are higher. These repairs are being conducted during the winter when chilled water usage is lower and can be supported from the Satellite Utility Plant.

Secret Shoppers - the Auxiliary Leadership Team is developing a customer service evaluation program as part of the strategic planning initiative to create a customer service focused environment. This effort will include secret shoppers and a service model we're calling "no turn away".

The Ray Martinez Award - Facilities Operations awarded the first annual Ray Martinez Award to the All Stars custodial team. This award was created by the Custodial teams to honor the memory of Ray Martinez, a 39 year employee who was dedicated to serving NMSU. The award is being presented to the custodial team who has the highest attendance rate for the calendar year. The winning team for this year had an attendance rate of 89%.

A Walk in the Park - Grounds personnel is overseeing the construction of the walking path around parking lot 34 (Payne and Wells Street). Smith and Aguirre Construction have performed the initial grading and compaction for the new path and paving is scheduled for next week. Facilities and Services will install the water lines and drinking fountains for the path.

NMSU Purchasing Director to Lead State Association - Rennette Apodaca, New Mexico State University’s director of purchasing, risk management and materials management, will become president of the New Mexico Public Procurement Association this month. NMPPA, a chapter of the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, has served purchasing officers, agents, buyers, managers and others associated with public procurement throughout New Mexico since 1996. The association encourages the
training and certification of members through professional development opportunities designed to guard the public trust and respond to the challenges of public procurement.

- **ICT’s Alan Lambath awarded Asprey Award** - The Asprey, which recognizes the most outstanding employee of the quarter, was awarded to Alan Lambeth, Lead Technology Support Technician. Alan not only repairs computers and printers, he fixes flash drives, golf carts, fax machines, cash registers, and anything else that lands on his desk. He’s known as *Mr. Customer Service* around the university, a title richly deserved.

- **Plant Operations and Sustainability** - The Christmas break is an opportunity for most of the people on campus to take much needed time off from work and to spend time with family and friends. For Facilities and Services Plant Operations personnel, it is also an opportunity to minimize the usage of campus utilities and therefore lower the cost to NMSU. During the recent holiday break, the heating and cooling to campus facilities was lowered to minimum levels. The return on this “investment” resulted in the lowest ever recorded use of electricity for the month of December. During a calendar year, we generate approximately 40% of our own electricity and buy the rest from El Paso Electric. At the lowest point of use during the break we were generating in excess of 90% of our own power. Another factor in this drop in usage is the lighting replacement that is currently occurring in campus buildings. With each building completed the amount of power that we must buy or generate goes down. Much effort has been put forth over the last few years to control our utility expenses to minimize costs and to be good stewards of our resources. For those who have been a part of this (and every member of the campus has), we extend our thanks for your support.

- **NMSU’s 2014 Firefighter of the Year** - Bo Bostinto has been selected as the 2014 Firefighter of the Year. Bo is a full-time student and has been employed since May of 2010. Bo has achieved many milestones here at the Fire Department to include his Firefighter I and II certification, Driver/Operator certification, and is currently licensed by the State of NM at the Emergency Medical Technician Advanced level. In addition, he is trained in technical rescue and serves as a Lieutenant. In his spare time Bo volunteers with our neighbors to the east at the Las Alturas Fire Department where he also holds the rank of Lieutenant and is in charge of training for their department. Academically, Bo received his Associates of Fire Science in 2012 and is working on his Bachelor’s in Government with a focus on Public Administration, which he anticipates acquiring in December of 2015. He is currently enrolled in the Paramedic program and will become NMSU Fire Department’s first paramedic this summer when he graduates.
• **Garcia Hall Goes Wireless** - In a partnership between Housing and Campus Life, ICT, and ASNMSU, Garcia residents will return to find a wireless point in each bedroom along with their existing internet access. ICT’s Network Engineering and Operations group completed the wireless upgrade over NMSU’s winter and it included the installation of 28 high-capacity switches and 467 wireless access points in 448 dormitory rooms, the lobby, and La Vista Lab. Students who reside in the Garcia Hall can now enjoy wireless connectivity to NMSU’s network as a result of the upgrade.

• **Governor Susanna Martinez “Governor’s Gala” Celebration** was held on Dec. 28th at the Pan Am Center. The challenge was converting the Pan Am from a basketball setting to a Gala event on the main floor in less than 24 hours. Staff including many students worked overnight to successfully convert the facility from a basketball configuration to a dinner/dance/concert setting, then back to basketball configuration thus hosting 3 major events in a 4 day window.

• **Parking Lot Maintenance Complete** - Recent maintenance to parking lots 59 and 105 included sweeping, crack sealing, application of a surface sealant and repainting has been completed.